

Miss M. French

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### THE MONTHLIES FOR JUNE.

A NEW POEM BY LONGFELLOW.  
DR. HOLLAND ATTACKS THE "POLITICAL MACHINE"—MARK TWAIN ON TELEGRAPHIC MISCELLANY.

The Atlantic for this month sustains fully the high standing it has gained for itself during the years gone by. The serial stories by Messrs. W. D. Howells and Thomas Bailey Aldrich are continued and there are several contributed articles of the very best excellence. The most noticeable feature, perhaps, is the new poem by Mr. Longfellow, under the title of "The Poet and His Songs." Several years ago, when Prof. Longfellow published his volume of poems called the "Aftermath," he intimated therein that his labors were drawing to a close. Yet he has written many poems since then and there have been in them no loss of the early freshness and beauty. Still the present series are in some sense the autobiography of a poet, telling how he had written his poetry as well as presenting a new specimen of it. It is suspended in full!

*The Poet and His Songs.*

As the birds come in the spring;

We know not where;

As the stars come at evening;

From depths of the air;

As the rain comes from the cloud,

And the brook from the rock;

As suddenly, low or loud;

Out of silence a sound;

As the grape comes to the vine;

The fruit on the tree;

As the wind comes to the pine;

And the tide to the sea;

As come the white sails of ships  
Over the ocean's face;

As comes the smile to the lips;

The foam to the surge;

So come to the Poet his songs.

All hitherward blown  
From the misty land, that belongs  
To the vast unknown.

His and not his, are the lays

He sings— and their pride,

Is his; and not his—the praise

And the pride of a name.

For voices pursue him by day;

And haunt him by night;

And he listens, needs not anybody.

When the Angel says: "Write."

H. W. Longfellow.

Mark Twain also contributes his funny article. A female number of his household is having a telephone interview in his library with a remote friend and Mark tells how it sounded to him:

I heard the following remarkable series of deliberations, all from the one tongue, and all shouted—for you can't ever persuade the speech to gently into a telephone:

Yes? Why, how did that happen?

Pause.

What did you say?

Pause.

Oh, no, I don't think it was.

Pause.

No! Oh, no, I didn't mean that. I meant, put it in while it is still boiling, or just before it comes to a boil.

Pause.

Pause.

I turned it over with a back stitch on the sevage edge.

Pause.

Yes, I like that way, too; but I think it's better to bathe it on with Valentine's or bombe, or something of that sort. It gives it such an air—and attracts so much notice.

Pause.

It's forty-fourth Deuteronomy, sixty-fourth to ninety-seventh inclusive. I think we ought all to read it often.

Pause.

Perhaps so; I generally use a hair-pi.

Pause.

What did you say? [Aside] Children do be quiet!

Pause.

OH! B. A. D. Dear me, I thought you said it was the cat!

Pause.

Since when?

Pause.

Why, I never heard of it.

Pause.

You astound me! It seems utterly impossible!

Pause.

Who did?

Pause.

Goodness gracious!

Pause.

Well, what is this world coming to? Was it the cat?

Pause.

And was her mother there?

Pause.

Why, Mrs. Bagley, I should have died of humiliation! What did they do?

Long pause.

and so on, getting better and better, the farthest it goes.

The following extracts from the *Popular Science Monthly* will be found very interesting reading.

Dr. C. S. Siemens has recently conducted experiments for two months on the influence of the electric light on vegetation. He planted the quick-growing seeds of certain common hardy vegetables in pots, and divided those pots into four groups, of which one was kept in the dark, one was exposed to the influence of the electric light only, one to the influence of daylight, and one to the influence of the electric light and daylight in succession. The electric light was applied for six hours each evening, and the plants were left in darkness during the remainder of the night. The plants that were kept entirely in the dark soon died; those exposed to the electric light only, or to daylight only, thrived about equally; and those exposed to both daylight and electric light thrived better than either. The experiments showed that the electric light is efficacious in producing chlorophyll in the leaves of plants, and in promoting growth. It also appears from them that an electric light equal to fourteen hundred candles, placed at a distance of a little more than two yards from growing plants, is equal in effect to the average daylight of the English March. Other conclusions, which Dr. Siemens thinks he is justified in drawing from his experiments, are—that plants do not require a daily period of rest, but make increased and vigorous progress of development during daytime to nighttime and during the night to the electric light; that the radiation of heat from powerful electric lights may be made available to counteract the effects of night frost, and is likely to promote the setting and ripening of fruit in the open air; and that, while under the influence of electric light, plants can sustain increased stress without collapsing. The expense of electric culture, being dependent on the cost of mechanical energy, may be made very moderate where natural sources of such energy, such as waterfalls, are available. The buds of tulips, placed in

the full glow of an electric lamp during the lecture in which Dr. Siemens related his experiments, expanded into full bloom in forty minutes.

It is laid that in India, when the lamp is thrown up, it shoots at the beginning of the rains, it surely does so with vigor before the occurrence of a thunderstorm, and that its growth is more rapid at the thunderstorms are heavier.

Mr. Werner Siemens exhibited an electrical railway at the recent exposition in Berlin, with which he attained a fair degree of success in transmitting electrical power to a distance, and applying it to the movement of carriages. This apparatus consists of a dynamo-electric machine fixed in the station supplying power to a second machine placed on a locomotive carriage, and connected with it by the rails of the track, and a third rail which is insulated in the middle of the track. The electrical current is transmitted from the generating machine to the locomotive through the middle rail, and is returned through the wheels and the rails of the track.

The locomotive is to be drawn by the locomotive and all electrically connected with it, so that the transmission is established through all the wheels.

The train exhibited by Mr. Siemens consisted of the locomotive and three carriages with seats for six persons each. With this train and its eighteen passengers an effective force was gained equivalent to that of two horses. In the interior of the exposition building a force equivalent to that of three horses and a half was gained, and a speed of 7.8 miles an hour.

Mr. Siemens, in giving an account of his invention to one of the societies a few months ago, did not seem to have much faith in its practicality, for he said he was afraid that "a great deal of water would run into the spaces before his dream would be realized;" but his firm has since submitted to the city of Berlin a proposal for the construction of an elevated railway across a part of that capital, to be operated by his machines. A track is contemplated similar, in its elevation and relations to the street, to the tracks of the elevated railroads in this city. The carriages will be narrow and short, to contain ten sitting-places and four standing places. The machine to propel them will be placed under the floor of the carriage between the wheels, and a steam-engine with sixty-horse power, which will be employed in the production of the electricity. A speed of about twenty miles an hour is anticipated. The magistrates of Berlin have appointed a special commission of engineers and architects to examine into and report upon the proposal.

Dr. Holland, in *Sherman's* shows again his remarkable knack of selecting exactly the subjects that the people are most interested in, and in his editorial, has given his ideas of the "political machine" in the following rather pointed way:

The machine politicians have a contempt for what he sneeringly denominates "sentimental politics." If a man permits either moral or sentimental considerations to enter into his motives of political action, he has done all that is necessary to arouse the suspicion—probably the contempt or hatred—of the average party politician.

Power and office are what the party men are after, and sentiment and principle are generally in their way. The attitude of Mr. Conkling toward Mr. Curtis is a sufficient illustration of this point. Mr. Conkling is a machine politician who is fond of power and who regards himself—with a strange hallucination—as a candidate for the Presidency of the United States.

Mr. Curtis is a man of principle who has refused high and important offices in order to serve his country more effectively in an attempt to purify its politics. Mr. Conkling is quite incapable of appreciating such disinterestedness on the part of any man engaged in politics, and his contempt for Mr. Curtis is probably as great as that of Mr. Curtis for him—if such a thing is possible.

THE MOTHER'S POWER.

Dr. Fraser, the Bishop of Manchester, has often spoken in public and in private of what is owing to his mother, whom he has lost just. His father, being of an active mind, invested his money in mining operations, and lost the most of it, dying soon afterward and leaving a family of seven, of whom James, the bishop, was the eldest. The mother realizing the condition of her late husband's estate, reflected that she could never give her children a fortune, but saw how by self-denial and a quiet life she could educate them all, and to this end she devoted her life. Mrs. Fraser was paralyzed, speechless, and helpless for a long time before she died, and in her speech last year the Bishop said that every day when he went into her room and looked into her face, he "thought gratefully of all he owed to her, of what he was, and of what he had been enabled to do."—*N. Y. Tribune.*

WIT OR FACT.

How to find a chip of the old block—Ax the block.

Fine feathers do not make fine birds. The birds make the feathers.

There is something saddening about a pair of scissors—all they only meet to sever.

An invention, corresponding to the telephone, is being completed for seeing by telegraph as well as hearing.

"If I hit you," said one small boy to another in Westchester, "you'll be un' yer self for two mor'r."

Postage stamps must not be used more than once. To go through the mails a letter must bear the stamp of originality.

The tide of immigration is constantly increasing.

During last week 15,000 fresh arrivals were landed at Castle Garden.

Canada has discovered a new resource in the production of lithographic stones. The supply has heretofore been chiefly from Germany.

The latest mails from China bring intelligence that the Chinese in Hong Kong have subscribed liberally for the sufferers from the Irish famine.

Twenty-eight States have passed fish laws to cover different seasons of the year; so that a man keeps traveling he can't go fishing at all.

Soth says that fishes talk. Next time we know somebody will accuse the poor little fishes of drinking whisky and then going home and beating their wives.

Very red-haired passengers—I say grand, you don't think the train go on? Guard, good gracious, sir, put your head in. How can you expect it to go on while that danger signal is out?

The baggage master of the Central Pacific.

He stated that he recently saw a Chinese

man carrying a large number of packages pasting labels on his boxes, on which was printed, "The Chinese must go."

Asked the Chinaman what he did that for, the reply was: "Sand lot men he read that, buy the box, smoke my cigars."

The New British Parliament contains a large number of Dissenters, all of whom are Liberal.

They are 21 Congregationalists, 6 Baptists, 9 Wesleyans, 20 Presbyterians, 1 Friends, and one Jew.

There are 19 Friends, 19 Unitarians, 48 Roman Catholics, and 53 Jews. The Friends have 1 representative in Parliament for every 694 of their members.

SHERIFF'S SALE.—In Chancery of New Jersey—Between James Moore, complainant, and Moses W. Dodd et al., defendants.—Pl. fa. for sale of lands in the town of Newark.

By virtue of the above stated writ of fieri facias, to me directed, I shall expose for sale, by public vendue, at the Court House in Newark, on Tuesday, the first day of June next, at two o'clock P. M., all that tract or parcel of land and premises situated in the town of Newark, in Essex County, New Jersey.

Begins at the northwest corner of the lot for me, and extends easterly along the center of the street running between said lot and the stone house stand at the corner of Elm and Franklin Streets (1) along the easterly side of said avenue south thirteen degrees and forty minutes west of north, containing one hundred and fifty-five feet and thirty-seven feet; thence (2) along the same line a northerly direction eighty-seven feet; thence (3) in a westerly direction forty-nine feet; thence (4) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (5) along the same line a southerly direction eighty-nine feet to said Elm street; thence (6) along said street in a southerly direction eighty-four feet; thence (7) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (8) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (9) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (10) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (11) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (12) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (13) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (14) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (15) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (16) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (17) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (18) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (19) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (20) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (21) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (22) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (23) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (24) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (25) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (26) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (27) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (28) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (29) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (30) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (31) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (32) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (33) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (34) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (35) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (36) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (37) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (38) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (39) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (40) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (41) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (42) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (43) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (44) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (45) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (46) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (47) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (48) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (49) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (50) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (51) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (52) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (53) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (54) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (55) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (56) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (57) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (58) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (59) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (60) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (61) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (62) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (63) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (64) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (65) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (66) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (67) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (68) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (69) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (70) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (71) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (72) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (73) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (74) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (75) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (76) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (77) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (78) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (79) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (80) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (81) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (82) in a northerly direction forty-four feet; thence (83) in a westerly direction forty-four feet; thence (84) in a northerly